MAY 1 9 2004 TO

PATENT 3759-0106P

IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Ole THASTRUP et al.

Conf.: 1691

Appl. No.:

09/619,310

Group: 1642

Filed:

July 19, 2000

Examiner: RAWLINGS, S.L.

For:

NOVEL FLUORESCENT PROTEINS

## LETTER

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

May 19, 2004

Sir:

Under the provisions of MPEP § 2001.06(b), the Examiner is hereby advised of the following co-pending U.S. Application:

Appl. No. <u>Filing Date</u> <u>Group</u> 09/872,364 June 1, 2001 1642

Co-pending 09/872,364 is a Continuation of the above-identified application. Therefore, the subject matter contained in the above-listed co-pending U.S. application may be deemed to relate to the present application, and thus may be material to the prosecution of this instant application.

Copies of cited co-pending U.S. patent application (specification, claims, and the drawings) will be provided if requested by the Examiner.

The above-listed co-pending application is not to be construed as prior art. By bringing the above-listed application to the attention of the Examiner, Applicants do NOT confidentiality concerning the above-listed co-pending application or this application. See MPEP § 101. Furthermore, if application should not mature into patents, such application should be preserved in secrecy under the provisions of 35 U.S.C. § 122 and 37 C.F.R. § 1.14.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fee required under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16 or 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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3759-0106P Attachment(s)

LRS/CAM/bsh